

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) ~~The quick-connect coupling according to claim 2, A~~
quick-connect coupling comprising:

a coupling body into which an end part, provided with an annular ridge, of a tube is
insertable;

a retainer insertable through a window into the coupling body in a direction
perpendicular to the axis of the coupling body so as to engage the annular ridge and to retain
the end part of the tube in the coupling body, the retainer comprising complete connection
verifying members integrally formed with the retainer to enable the retainer to be pressed
through the window into the coupling body only after the annular ridge of the tube has
advanced to a position where the retainer can engage the annular ridge of the tube;

wherein the coupling body comprises ~~has~~ a blocking part that engages with the
complete connection verifying members to restrain the complete connection verifying
members from being pressed into the coupling body when the annular ridge of the end part of
the tube has not advanced to the position where the retainer can engage the annular ridge of
the tube in a state where the tube is improperly inserted in the coupling body.

4. (Original) The quick-connect coupling according to claim 3, wherein the retainer
has a rib having an inner end surface that engages with the annular ridge of the tube to retain
the annular ridge in place and locking legs respectively having locking hooks that engage
with side walls of the coupling body, respectively, and the complete connection verifying
members extend along the locking legs of the retainer and are provided at their free ends with

hooks capable of coming into contact with the blocking part, respectively.

5. (Currently amended) The quick-connect coupling according to claim 4, wherein the hooks of the complete connection verifying members are provided with notches ~~[[in]]~~ to which ends of the blocking part engage.

6. (Currently amended) The quick-connect coupling according to claim 4, wherein the coupling body has backup parts for supporting the rib, and when a pulling force is exerted on the tube connected to the coupling body in a direction to pull the tube out of ~~off~~ the coupling body, the backup parts support the rib to retain the tube in the coupling body so that the backup parts are pressed against and an outer end surface opposite the inner end surface in engagement with the annular ridge ~~to retain the tube in the coupling body is pressed against thereto.~~

7. (Original) The quick-connect coupling according to claim 4, wherein the complete connection verifying members have a strength such that the hooks of the complete connection verifying members cannot be separated from the blocking part by a pressure not higher than a predetermined reference threshold force to make the retainer unable to be pressed in the coupling body unless the tube is inserted in the coupling body so that the annular ridge of the tube is advanced clear of the rib into the coupling body beyond a position corresponding to the inner end surface of the rib.

8. (Original) The quick-connect coupling according to claim 7, wherein the retainer has a strength enough to make the retainer unable to be removed from the coupling body by a

tensile force not higher than the predetermined reference threshold force in a state where the tube is retained normally in the coupling body by the retainer.

9. (Original) The quick-connect coupling according to claim 7, wherein the reference threshold force is 80N.

10. (Currently amended) The quick-connect coupling according to claim 4 [[2]], wherein a slit is formed between each of the locking legs and the complete connection verifying member adjacent to the locking leg.

11. (Original) The quick-connect coupling according to claim 2, wherein the retainer is a thin, substantially U-shaped member.

12. (Original) The quick-connect coupling according to claim 8, wherein the reference threshold force is 80N.

13. (Original) The quick-connect coupling according to claim 10, wherein the retainer is a thin, substantially U-shaped member.